

Calendar No. 200

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 778

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require a lactation space in each medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

 IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

OCTOBER 22 (legislative day, OCTOBER 21), 2025

Reported by Mr. MORAN, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require a lactation space in each medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “~~Lactation Spaces for~~
 5 ~~Veteran Moms Act~~”.

1 **SEC. 2. LACTATION SPACES IN MEDICAL CENTERS OF THE**
 2 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter H of chapter 17 of
 4 title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
 5 end the following new section:

6 **“§ 1720M. Lactation spaces in medical centers of the**
 7 **Department**

8 “(a) LACTATION SPACE REQUIRED.—The Secretary
 9 shall ensure that each medical center of the Department
 10 contains a lactation space.

11 “(b) NO UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY.—Nothing in this
 12 section shall be construed to authorize an individual to
 13 enter a medical center of the Department or portion there-
 14 of that the individual is not otherwise authorized to enter.

15 “(c) LACTATION SPACE DEFINED.—In this section,
 16 the term ‘lactation space’ means a hygienic place, other
 17 than a bathroom, that—

18 “(1) is shielded from view;

19 “(2) is free from intrusion;

20 “(3) is accessible to disabled individuals (in-
 21 cluding such individuals who use wheelchairs);

22 “(4) contains a chair and a working surface;

23 “(5) is easy to locate;

24 “(6) is clearly identified with signage; and

25 “(7) is available for use by women veterans and
 26 members of the public to express breast milk.”.

1 (b) ~~CLERICAL AMENDMENT.~~—The table of sections
 2 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
 3 after the item related to section 1720L the following new
 4 item:

“1720M. Lactation spaces in medical centers of the Department.”.

5 (c) ~~EFFECTIVE DATE.~~—The Secretary of Veterans
 6 Affairs shall carry out section 1720M of title 38, United
 7 States Code, as added by this section, not later than two
 8 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

9 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

10 *This Act may be cited as the “Lactation Spaces for*
 11 *Veteran Moms Act”.*

12 **SEC. 2. LACTATION SPACES IN MEDICAL CENTERS OF THE**
 13 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

14 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Subchapter II of chapter 17 of title
 15 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
 16 the following new section:

17 **“§1720M. Lactation spaces in medical centers of the**
 18 **Department**

19 “(a) *LACTATION SPACE REQUIRED.*—The Secretary
 20 shall ensure that each medical center of the Department
 21 contains a lactation space.

22 “(b) *NO UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY.*—Nothing in this sec-
 23 tion shall be construed to authorize an individual to enter
 24 a medical center of the Department or portion thereof that
 25 the individual is not otherwise authorized to enter.

1 “(c) *LACTATION SPACE DEFINED.*—*In this section, the*
 2 *term ‘lactation space’ means a hygienic place, other than*
 3 *a bathroom, that—*

4 “(1) *is shielded from view;*

5 “(2) *is free from intrusion;*

6 “(3) *is accessible to disabled individuals (includ-*
 7 *ing such individuals who use wheelchairs);*

8 “(4) *contains a chair and a working surface;*

9 “(5) *is easy to locate;*

10 “(6) *is clearly identified with signage; and*

11 “(7) *is available for use by women veterans and*
 12 *members of the public to express breast milk.”.*

13 “(b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.*—*The table of sections at*
 14 *the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after*
 15 *the item related to section 1720L the following new item:*

“1720M. Lactation spaces in medical centers of the Department.”.

16 “(c) *IMPLEMENTATION.*—*The Secretary of Veterans Af-*
 17 *fairs shall ensure that—*

18 “(1) *not later than two years after the date of the*
 19 *enactment of this Act, not fewer than 80 percent of*
 20 *medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs*
 21 *are in compliance with section 1720M of title 38,*
 22 *United States Code, as added by subsection (a); and*

23 “(2) *not later than three years after such date of*
 24 *enactment, all medical centers of the Department are*
 25 *in compliance with such section.*

1 (d) *REPORT.*—

2 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than one year after
3 the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
4 thereafter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall sub-
5 mit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Sen-
6 ate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the
7 House of Representatives a report on the progress of
8 the Secretary in meeting the requirements under sec-
9 tion 1720M of title 38, United States Code, as added
10 by subsection (a), including—

11 (A) a list of which medical centers of the
12 Department of Veterans Affairs currently have a
13 lactation space;

14 (B) a list of which medical centers of the
15 Department do not have a lactation space; and

16 (C) for each medical center listed under sub-
17 paragraph (B), a description of actions the De-
18 partment has taken to design and plan a lacta-
19 tion space and a timeline for such lactation
20 space to be fully functional and open for use
21 within the time periods specified under sub-
22 section (c).

23 (2) *TERMINATION.*—The Secretary is not re-
24 quired to submit a report under paragraph (1) on or
25 after the date on which the Secretary confirms in a

1 *report submitted under such paragraph that each*
2 *medical center of the Department contains a lactation*
3 *space.*

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